

COKING PLANT AT SZTALINVAROS

The coking plant of the Sztalinvaros Combine is being built near the refractory brick plant. It will be the first plant to use Hungarian coal for coking. The coke will be made from Komlo coal and will be used to stoke the blast furnaces which are to begin operating fall 1953.

Nine of the 135 buildings comprising the coking plant have been completed, while 45 are now under construction. The finished buildings include the administration building, the laboratory, the gas-recovering tower, the material and spare-parts storehouse, the refractory material storehouse, the instrument and electric repair shop, the machine-repair shop, the coal sampler, and the lubricant storehouse.

An electric wagon tipple is being built in a different part of the plant. The tipple will feed coal to conveyer belts which will take the coal to be milled. In the course of one year the coking plant will process enough coal to fill the cars of an 1,800-kilometer-long train. The coal feeder will be completed by summer. Its reinforced-concrete bunkers will be 24 meters high. It took 4,400 cubic meters of concrete, 160 tons of concrete steel, and 14,000 square meters of casing to construct these bunkers.

The foundations of the coal-washing and grading works have already been laid. The works have a capacity of 78,000 cubic meters, and their most important equipment consists of a giant coal mixer which has a diameter of 25 meters and will stand 30 meters high. From the washer, the coal will go to the coal tower via an underground conveyer belt.

The coal tower is under construction and will be 48 meters high. The two coking blocks, each consisting of 55 ovens, will be built on either side of the coal tower. They will produce over half a million tons of coke per year. The foundation and chimney flues of the coking blocks have been completed. The blocks will be surrounded by a protective wall made of came reeds.

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The gases resulting from coking will be used to heat the open-hearth and blast-furnace sheds and will be processed for chemical derivatives.

The incandescent coke will be taken from the ovens to the quenching tower in electrically driven quenching cars. Next, rubber conveyer belts will transport it to the grader, from where it will go directly to the blast furnace.

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